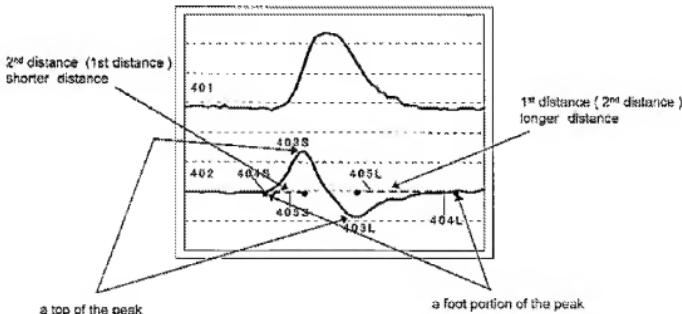


REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 stand rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 10, and 11 have been amended. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,969,273 ("Archie"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Among the limitations of the independent claims not present in Archie is that a judgment as to whether the a side is the line pattern or space is made by comparing the first distance with the second distance. As shown in the figure below, this analysis and the method and system recited in the claims and shown in the above graph is unlike Archie.



Archie discloses that a derivative waveform is generated to perform hump width measurement. In contrast, the present application discloses that a 1st distance and a 2nd distance are found and then judgment about whether the subject is the line or the space. Specifically, the invention of the present application comprises a step for finding two distances in order to perform judgment about whether the subject is the line or the space. Hence, in regard to this point, the invention of the present application satisfies the requirement that Archie cannot satisfy, since Archie requires predetermination of the position of a subject to be measured.

To clarify this point, the claims recite "judging the longer distance side ... based on the comparing the first distance with second distance." Accordingly, the steps are performed in series from "acquiring distances to judging the distance as line pattern or space."

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: November 12, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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